Government of
Saskatchewan

2006 - 2007
Annual Report

Saskatchewan
Learning

Saskatchewan Multitype
Library Board

2007-04680/

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This annual report is also available in electronic format from the department's web site at **http://www.sasklearning.gov.sk.ca/branches/prov_library/publications.shtml**

Letters of Transmittal

His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon Barnhart
Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I respectfully submit the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Deb Higgins
Minister of Learning

The Honourable Deb Higgins
Minister of Learning

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Zenon Zuzak
Chair, Multitype Library Board

Who We Are

The purpose of the Multitype Library Board is to optimize the capacity and outcomes of Saskatchewan Libraries by enabling all types of libraries and information providers to work co-operatively in a multitype library system.

Vision

Access to information is a democratic right of all people in Saskatchewan.

Mission

Libraries in Saskatchewan will work together to maintain and enhance a co-operative interdependent information network which will ensure a consistent and high quality information service through a multitype library system.

Partners

The partners in the multitype library system include:

- the public, school, post-secondary education and special library sectors;

- the Provincial Library, which has traditionally played a coordinating role in the Saskatchewan library community; and

- other information providers, such as archives, business resource centres and Aboriginal libraries.

Each partner has a unique role, mandate and client group that it serves. Partners vary in size, structure, governance, facilities, resources and functions. Each one must understand the nature of the differences as well as the similarities to co-operate more effectively.

Public Libraries

The role and mandate of public libraries are to provide people of all ages with equitable access to informational, cultural, recreational and educational materials and services. The public library system provides library service from over 300 branch libraries in communities across Saskatchewan through seven regional library systems, a federated library system in the north and two municipal libraries in the cities of Regina and Saskatoon. The Provincial Library is also a key component of the public library system.

School Libraries

The role of school libraries is to support the learning program of the school and to meet the individual needs and interests of staff and students. School libraries play an integral role in supporting curricula by providing appropriate resources and in actively involving students in the location, evaluation and use of information, ideas and resources. The range of resources in a school library includes print, non-print, electronic and human resources.

Post-secondary Education Libraries

The role and mandate of post-secondary education libraries is to provide information and services which support the information needs of students, faculty, researchers and staff of educational institutions and to educate clients in the use of information resources.

Special Libraries

The role and mandate of special libraries is to provide specialized information services for staff, students, or members of a parent organization. Special libraries in Saskatchewan include government, corporate and private libraries, with specialized collections and subject-knowledgeable staff.
While special libraries tend to be concentrated in the cities of Saskatoon and Regina, they are also found in smaller communities such as Humboldt, North Battleford and Swift Current.

Provincial Library

The Public Libraries Act, 1996 mandates the Provincial Library to serve as a coordinating agency for the provincial public library system and to administer public library grants. *The Libraries Co-operation Act* mandates the Provincial Library to act as secretariat to the Multitype Library Board and to support the multitype library system through such activities as research, planning, services support and the establishment of policies and procedures.

Information Providers

Other information providers have a variety of roles, mandates and client groups depending on their organizations. They also bring a wide range of expertise and experiences to a partnership with libraries, which makes their contributions particularly valuable, especially in the area of information technology utilization.

Mandate and Role

The Multitype Library Board was established by the *Libraries Co-operation Act* in 1996. Its mandate is to facilitate the cooperative development of the multitype library system in Saskatchewan by providing a forum for appointed representatives of library sectors and information providers in Saskatchewan to meet and discuss ways in which they can co-operate to enhance their capacity and services.

A multitype library system is a network of working relationships, between any inter-sectoral combination of autonomous libraries and information providers, established to share services and resources for mutual benefit.

In a multitype library system, the jurisdictional boundaries and separate administrative structures of libraries and information providers remain intact, but co-operative initiatives and working relationships enable them to collectively acquire information products and develop services that they could not achieve independently.

The role of the Multitype Library Board is to find library needs that overlap and allow these areas of mutual need to be the basis for the development of co-operative policies and programs.

Programs

The Multitype Library Board operates programs and initiatives that enable collaboration among multitype partners in areas of mutual interest. Programs and initiatives are operationalized via the Board's secretariat, the Provincial Library. The Multitype Database Licensing Program is the primary and longest running program of the board. Additional initiatives are developed as emerging needs and issues are identified by partners. A strategy to support multitype partners in their digitization efforts is currently under development.

Structure

The Minister Responsible for Libraries appoints members of the Multitype Library Board. The following representation must be appointed:

- a library director from a public library or public library system;
- a library director from a school library or school library system;
- a library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system;
- a library director from a special library or special library system;
- the Provincial Librarian;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association;
- a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association;
- one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity; and
- one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

The minister may appoint any of the following representation:

- one person who is, or who is employed by, an information provider;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association;
- one person appointed after consultation with the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities; and

- one or two other persons in consultation with the library community.

The role of board members is to consult with their library sector to ensure broad understanding of all sectors' needs and to enable full participation of all sectors in multitype initiatives.

As entrenched in *The Libraries Co-operation Act*, the Board uses consensus decision making. Consensus decision making recognizes the autonomy and individual responsibility of autonomous libraries and library systems represented on the Board.

The Multitype Library Board advises and provides recommendations to the Minister Responsible for Libraries with respect to the development of the multitype library system.

It may also make recommendations to libraries and library systems concerning multitype library development.

The Provincial Library, a branch of Saskatchewan Learning, provides secretariat support to the Board.

Values

The multitype library system was founded on a set of values and principles. The Multitype Library Board has placed high priority on emulating those values and has emerged as a model for bringing strong autonomous partners together in collaborative initiatives. As new partners come to the table, the Board plays a critical role in cultivating a shared understanding of these values.

Strong local autonomous library partners

A strong multitype library system rests on strong, local autonomous libraries and library systems. Partners look after their own development and issues of jurisdiction.

Decisions made by consensus

Decisions on matters of importance to all partners should be made in a manner which recognizes that all the partners must either agree with the decision or, at least, could accept or work within the decision.

Think globally ... search locally

Libraries work to share resources at a local level first, then regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally.

The whole is greater than the sum of the parts

Autonomous library partners working together create a capacity for library service that is broader, more effective and less costly than the partners could achieve individually.

Commitment to co-operation for mutual benefit

Co-operation is the cornerstone of the multitype library system. The reason people are willing to co-operate is that they see that things will work better if they do.

Organic development

Growth and development of multitype initiatives are based on what is possible for the partners. Multitype initiatives will be realized through people voluntarily working at the local level to develop what works for them.

Sustained attention

Continued effort is required to build a strong multitype library system. It must remain a high priority for each of the partners and it may mean marshalling resources to ensure that the system remains healthy as it develops.

Environmental Trends

In its Strategic Plan Update, the Board identifies several key trends that strongly influence the development of the multitype library system and will continue to over the next few years.

Demographics

There is a growing sense of urgency to address the changing needs of an aging population, the rural/urban shift, an increase in Aboriginal/First Nations people and the widening literacy divide in Saskatchewan.

Demand for online information & services

The growing demand for online information and a growing sophistication in how information is structured presents a number of issues: libraries' response to how they will organize, manage and archive information; the public's ability to access information; increased expectations that information will be provided in digitized form on the Internet; and, the need to reposition how libraries see themselves and are seen by the public.

Sharing of resources and services through partnerships

Increasingly, initiatives undertaken in Saskatchewan recognize the interconnectedness among sectors and the potential for mutual benefit. In the multitype library system this means ensuring there are common values for partnering at the local and provincial levels.

Increasing restrictions on access to information

The trend towards charging for information online and issues of ownership raises a number of questions and highlights libraries' role in advocating access to information for the public good.

Recruitment, retention and training

The struggle to recruit and retain qualified staff has become a national issue crossing many sectors of the economy. A report entitled "The Future of Human Resources in Canadian Libraries" published in 2005 by the 8Rs Research Team indicates that Saskatchewan and Manitoba libraries have greater recruitment issues because the universities in these provinces do not have Master of Library Science programs. Saskatchewan libraries will require strategies to: attract new entrants and retain those currently in the workforce; ensure the competencies of information professionals are articulated and recognized; and, explore affordable, accredited and accessible distance education that would give Saskatchewan residents better access to librarianship education.

Board Members 2006-2007

Public Library Sector

Isabelle Butters, Former President, Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association, Weyburn; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Trustees Association.

Zenon Zuzak, Director, Saskatoon Public Library, Saskatoon; serving in the position of a library director from a public library or public library system.

School Library Sector

Barbara McNeil, Teacher Librarian, Regina Public School Board, Campbell Collegiate, Regina; serving in the position of a library director from a school library or school library system.

Lois Smandych, Southeast Branch Representative, Saskatchewan School Boards Association, Bredenbury; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association.

Post-Secondary Education Library Sector

Rian Misfeldt, Program Head for Library Services, SIAST Wascana Campus, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a post-secondary library in any capacity.

Heather West, Academic Director, SIAST Library and Testing Services, Regina; serving in the position of library director from a post-secondary library or post-secondary library system.

Special Library Sector

Mary Chipanshi, (starting August 17, 2006) Client Services Librarian, Health Science Library, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Regina; serving in the position of one other person employed by a special library in any capacity.

Joan Martin, Head Librarian, Canadian Agriculture Library, Saskatoon; serves in the position of a library director from a special library or special library system.

Information Providers

Carol Shepstone, (until August 17, 2006) Head, Access Services, University of Saskatchewan Library, Saskatoon; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association.

Phyllis Lerat, University Librarian, First Nations University of Canada Library, Regina; representing Aboriginal Libraries.
Julie McKenna, (starting August 17, 2006) Librarian, University of Regina; serving in the position of a person chosen from a list of persons nominated by the Saskatchewan Library Association.

Bev Siebert, (starting August 17, 2006) Library Trustee, Southeast Regional Library, Milestone; representing the public.

Mark Vajcner, University Archivist, University of Regina Archives and Special Collections, Regina; representing the archives community.

Provincial Library

Joylene Campbell, Provincial Librarian, Regina; representing Saskatchewan Learning, Provincial Library.

Key Results 2006-2007

There were four Board meetings in the reporting year, as well as a semi-annual and an annual meeting with stakeholders. Multitype program committees, including the Multitype Database Licensing Committee and the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance, met multiple times throughout the reporting year.

The Board's priorities for 2006-2007 were guided by the strategic directions, goals and objectives of the Multitype Library Board Strategic Plan Update, a five-year plan created in 2003. The strategic directions and goals set out what the Board plans to accomplish during the five-year period. The objectives are specific result statements that support the goals. The performance indicators define the outcome and are the basis for measuring and evaluating impact. The key results articulate accomplishments made during the reporting year.

Strategic Direction 1 – Develop the multitype system.

Strengthen partners by developing co-operative strategies to address emerging issues. Nurture and build relationships.

The relationships that form a healthy multitype library system require ongoing development. A key role of the Multitype Library Board is to foster communication among the partners and awareness of the benefits of the multitype co-operation. The Board also ensures a responsive environment to partner needs by monitoring issues and trends that are affecting partners and identifying co-operative strategies to address them.

Performance Indicator

Strong, diverse, independent partners – with appropriate staffing, training, funding resources and facilities – contributing equitably to multitype initiatives.

Goal 1 – Actively involve communities of interest and educate members on multitype values and participation standards.

Objective 1 – Strengthen and expand the process to ensure participation of archives, Aboriginal libraries and other information providers.

Objective 2 – Design an approach to support the creation of multitype activities locally, regionally and provincially.

Objective 3 – Update the Board's communication strategy.

Key Results

- Established the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance with representatives from libraries and archives to further province-wide digitization in response to the recommendations from the Digitization Inventory Project in 2005. Before the end of the fiscal year, the Digital Alliance had drafted a communication plan and initiated plans to conduct a digitization training session at the May 2007 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference.

- Continued with archives representation on the Board. The Board member representing archives has worked with the Board and the broader multitype community, to identify areas of need and interest that span both archives and libraries. The archives representative on the Board is also a member of the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance.

- Continued with Aboriginal libraries representation on the Board. The Board member representing Aboriginal libraries during this fiscal year has been Phyllis Lerat, a librarian at First Nations University of Canada and a member of the Library Services for Saskatchewan Aboriginal People Committee.

- Continued communication activities including sending all stakeholders a communiqué following each Board meeting. Brought partners together at both the Semi-annual General Meeting and the Annual General Meeting to review the vision and values of the multitype system and to discuss the Multitype Database Licensing Program.

- Began a process for improving the Saskatchewan Libraries web site, the official web site of the Board and one of its main communication tools. A web consulting company, Look Matters, was commissioned to analyze the current web site and provide recommendations for future improvement. The report includes results from a focus group consultation, an online survey, web content analysis and recommends implementing Library 2.0 infrastructure. The Board will review the contents of this report before initiating specific changes.

Goal 2 – Research and document emerging issues facing the partners and develop strategies to address.

Objective 1 – Develop a strategy to address recruitment, retention and training needs of the partners as identified in the Report of the Multitype Public Relations Committee.

Objective 2 – Advance recommendations from the June 2002 discussion paper, "Saskatchewan Libraries Working Together".

Key Results

- The Board sponsored a session at the 2006 Saskatchewan Libraries Conference concerning human resources in the library profession entitled, "So What Are We DOING About It? The CLA President's Council on the 8Rs." The 8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study was a national research project that examined important facets of library human resources from both organizational and individual perspectives over a two year period. The report specifically indicates that Saskatchewan and Manitoba libraries have greater recruitment issues because the universities in these provinces do not have Master of Library Science programs.

- Ensured that Saskatchewan was represented at a series of national thematic meetings on digitization and a national summit hosted by Library and Archives Canada. The Board received reports following each meeting to help inform future digitization policy directions

and to ensure that Saskatchewan digitization development strategy, standards and best practices fit within a national digitization strategy.

- Supported the continuation of the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary. On the recommendation of the Multitype Library Board, Provincial Library, the Board's secretariat and a branch of Saskatchewan Learning, granted $15,000 to the Saskatchewan Libraries Education Bursary, which is administered by the Saskatchewan Library Association. This bursary awards $5,000 to a student enrolled in a Master of Library and Information Science program or equivalent, who agrees to return to work in Saskatchewan upon completion of their degree. The bursary was started in 2002 and the first four bursary recipients have completed their studies and are working in libraries in the province. Since the bursary began, Provincial Library, on the recommendation of the Board, has granted $85,000 in seed funding to the program.

- Continued development of a competency profile for use by the Government of Saskatchewan in hiring information management professionals. Librarians from the Board, Provincial Library, the Legislative Library, the Government of Saskatchewan Information Technology Office and SIAST worked with the Public Service Commission to draft the profile, which was in the final editing stage at the end of the 2006/07 fiscal year.

- Invited guests to speak to the Board about issues related to both library services for Aboriginal people and a representative workforce in the education sector. The Board invited all public library systems, the major post-secondary education libraries and the Legislative Library to provide information on how each library developed and/or implemented policies related to a representative workforce.

- Monitored developments in school libraries and cultivated relationships with school divisions and school library representatives.

Strategic Direction 2 – Implement the multitype library system.

Expand access to content, including digitized information; broaden multitype partnerships; and build capacity of the partners.

The Board develops initiatives to enhance partner information services. The flagship initiative, the Multitype Database Licensing Program, has extended library collections through bulk purchasing subscriptions to electronic magazines, journals and newspapers. Future endeavours will expand access to content—in particular through digitization of print collections—and will focus on involving other types of multitype partners in such projects.

Performance Indicator

Partners have the capacity to digitize information and have enhanced online collections that are utilized by the public.

Goal 1 – Develop strategies that enable partners to expand their collections and become central players in publicly accessible high quality information.

Objective 1 – Review the digitization report and develop a provincial strategy for multitype partners.

Objective 2 – Participate in innovation and learning initiatives.

Objective 3 – Conduct a formal evaluation of the multitype library system and initiatives.

Objective 4 – Continue to develop the Multitype Database Licensing Program.

Objective 5 – Develop a staff training strategy for multitype library initiatives.

Objective 6 – Aggregate, identify, find and implement access to commercial and digitized content.

Key Results

- Established the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance to act on recommendations from the 2005 Digitization Inventory Project, including creating education opportunities related to digitization; ensuring interoperability for the future by developing a province-wide digitization strategy; facilitating mentorship-style partnerships among organizations with established digitization projects and those recently embarking on digitization; and, promoting careful use of resources. The Saskatchewan Digital Alliance has subsequently begun working on a number of these recommendations and has been coordinating with Alouette Canada, the emerging national one-stop search portal for digital collections.

- Enhanced the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) as follows:

    - Worked with Saskatchewan Finance to eliminate the Provincial Sales Tax on library subscriptions to electronic newspapers, journals, magazines and reference books. Provincial Library and Saskatchewan Finance agreed that electronic reading materials should not be interpreted as taxable computer services. Approximately $30,000 per year will be saved as the result of this ruling. Partner libraries agreed to reinvest these savings into the program.

    - Licensed three new products from EBSCO: "Auto Repair Reference Center", "Novelist" and "Novelist K-8". Added 19 eBook titles from the Gale Virtual Reference Library as one-time purchases.

    - Formed a subcommittee of members from each library sector to create product evaluation principles and evaluation forms. These were presented and approved at the February 2007 Annual General Meeting. The principles and evaluation forms will be applied to both current and potential products.

- Communication with MDLP members and the broader library community was continued through the MDLP Communiqué and MDLP information on the Saskatchewan Libraries web site (www.lib.sk.ca/staff/dblicensing/index.html)

Goal 2 – Expand multitype projects to encompass archives, Aboriginal libraries, museums and other service providers.

Objective 1 – Sponsor a provincial conference.

Key Results

- Reviewed project plans for Digitization Pilot Projects and made recommendations to the Minister to fund two projects involving partnerships between public libraries and other information providers such as archives, museums, art galleries and cultural organizations. The Board has consistently communicated with various library sectors and a number of other information providers on digitization issues, beginning with the forums held in Regina and Saskatoon in 2004. The Board established the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance in 2006 with the understanding that a Multitype approach to digitization in Saskatchewan is crucial.

Strategic Direction 3 – Connect libraries of all types to provide equitable access to and delivery of information.

Broaden the focus to include the way information is developed, organized and presented to the people of Saskatchewan

Networking technology enables multitype partners to collaborate with one another, share information and resources and deliver information more effectively to patrons. The Board plays a leadership role in ensuring the way information is developed is appropriate, inclusive and easy for the public to find and use.

Performance Indicators

The partner's online services are interoperable, transparent to people, affordable, fast, current and distant neutral.

Goal 1 – Work with the library community to develop policy that clearly articulates the intent and implications of "one stop" access.

Objective 1 – Initiate a high level discussion on how to weave together all the services ensuring easy access.

Objective 2 – Develop a strategy to establish basic standards to support interoperability of information systems and to ensure a common understanding of how to integrate technology standards across information providers.

Objective 3 – Research, evaluate, implement and assess the impact of alternate routes to information resources.

Objective 4 – Organize and participate in a series of think tank/brainstorm sessions on e-information services and the use of appropriate technology.

Key Results

- Created guidelines in partnership with Saskatchewan Finance for exempting PST on library electronic subscriptions. These guidelines also apply to individual library subscriptions throughout the province. There will be an estimated $450,000 in annual saving for all libraries.

- Continued to maintain and update the Saskatchewan Libraries web site to electronically connect all types of libraries in the province. A web consulting firm was commissioned to make recommendations for improving this web site before Provincial Library embarks on a redesign project.

- The Saskatchewan online library services and resources web portal, www.mylibrary.sk.ca continued to provide Saskatchewan residents with "one stop" online library services. Enhancements will be considered as part of the broader Saskatchewan Libraries web site redesign.

- Continued to promote the idea of a single search capability for Saskatchewan's digital collections. Future digitization pilot projects are recommended to make their collections searchable through Alouette Canada's dedicated Saskatchewan page. In addition, the Saskatchewan Digital Alliance will be working to educate libraries and other information providers about metadata standards that will enable digital collections to be searched by a single interface.

Strategic Direction 4 – Promote participation in the multitype library system.

Promote an image of multitype partners that illustrates their changing and central role in access to information.

An emerging role for the Board is to create and promote a new image of multitype partners that illustrates their changing and central role in access to information. This means ensuring that Saskatchewan people are aware of the information services through multitype partners. It also means updating their image and reinforcing access to information as a democratic right.

Performance indicators

The multitype library system is used and valued by the people in Saskatchewan. Multitype partners are seen as the first stop to accessible, quality information.

Goal 1 – Develop, implement and evaluate a province-wide strategy to aggressively promote the multitype library system, libraries and other information providers.

Objective 1 – Adopt proactive, innovative approaches to promotion, targeting new audiences and using new mechanisms.
Objective 2 – Promote a new image of libraries and librarianship.

Objective 3 – Advance recommendations from the Report of the Multitype Public Relations Committee.

Objective 4 – Establish a monetary fund for Multitype Library Board promotion strategies.

- Studied the implementation of Library 2.0 technologies and social software to expand communication with various library patrons, including young audiences.

- Continued support of www.mylibrary.sk.ca to provide Saskatchewan libraries tools and resources to promote online library services.

- Maintained the Saskatchewan Libraries Careers section on the Saskatchewan Libraries web site. The Careers section promotes the field of librarianship and other careers available in libraries.

- Sent a letter to the Minister of Learning in support of new provincial legislation that makes school library services mandatory and highlighted the fact that school library services have a positive impact on literacy and student achievement.

- Distributed the Multitype Library Board annual report and discussion paper to a variety of libraries, associations and agencies across Saskatchewan and Canada.

- Continued education and awareness activities at the Annual General Meeting and Semi-annual General Meetings to promote the value of libraries and multitype co-operation.

Multitype Database Licensing Program

Background

The Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) is a province-wide program in which libraries pool funds to purchase universal, province-wide access to electronic information sources – magazines, journals, newspapers, directories, reference books and other information resources. Access is via the Internet through partner library web sites. The program provides access to more than 7,000 unique journal titles in full text.

In 2006, patrons of Saskatchewan libraries accessed the magazine, journal, newspaper, eBook and reference databases 577,376 times. This means usage is up by 89,374 over 2005, or an 18% increase. Users performed 2,295,481 searches within these databases. This works out to a per use cost of approximately one dollar and about 25 cents per search. The total value of the program was $587,700 in 2006/07.

In 2006/07, 40 libraries and all K to 12 schools participated in the program. Participants included all ten public library systems; all K to 12 schools through the support of Saskatchewan Learning; the two university library systems, libraries on the four campuses of SIAST and five small colleges; as well as twenty-one special libraries and the Provincial Library. Provincial Library takes responsibility for the administration and coordination of the program.

The MDLP program has significantly enhanced access to reliable electronic information resources for Saskatchewan residents through their Saskatchewan libraries. By pooling funds, the overall contribution needed by any one library is greatly reduced. The program allows all libraries to have access to extensive online resources that would otherwise be impossible for a small library to acquire. This program effectively extends access to all residents, the majority of whom still live in small urban, rural or remote communities. All the databases can be accessed from a user's home computer. Through this program, libraries are helping close the digital divide and ensure that all citizens have equitable access to the authoritative, quality information that is so important to learning, work and leisure in a global, knowledge-based economy.

The goals of the Multitype Database Licensing Program are:
- to increase the amount of authoritative information available to library users;
- to ensure equitable access to information resources;
- to make these resources accessible in every type of library province-wide;
- to pay for access to these resources only once; and
- to maximize the buying capacity of all libraries through cost-sharing.

Highlights of 2006/2007

1. New Products and New Vendor

EBSCO The MDLP signed an agreement with EBSCO to subscribe to "Auto Repair Reference Center and Novelist". EBSCO also provided complementary access to "Novelist K-8".

The "Auto Repair Reference Center" contains information on most major manufacturers of domestic and imported vehicles, with repair information for approximately 25,000 vehicles (1945 to present), as well as a complete guide to vehicle ownership & maintenance.

"NoveList" is an online readers' advisory service that helps librarians and readers find fiction books based on books they have read or topics in which they are interested. The database provides more than 130,000 fiction titles for all ages with subject and keyword access. It contains more than 90,000 full text searchable reviews and 65,000 Book cover images. "Novelist K-8" contains enhanced subject access for over 50,000 fiction titles aimed at the K-8 students. The product also provides booktalks for selected young adult and children's titles.

eBook In 2006, for the first time the MDLP purchased EBooks for its partner libraries. At the February Annual General Meeting (AGM), partners authorized the committee to investigate the purchase of some eBooks using the surplus identified at the 2005/06 AGM. The committee looked at and/or tested EBooks from Gale Virtual Reference Library, Oxford Digital Reference Shelf, OCLC netLibrary and ebrary (including Canadian Electronic Library). Nineteen eBook titles were purchased from Gale Virtual Reference Library. The MDLP paid a flat hosting fee to Gale to cap the hosting charges of EBooks for the province. This allowed member libraries to purchase additional Gale EBook titles for their own institutions without paying an additional hosting fee. Access was provided to partner libraries in August 2006.

2. MDLP Policy

At the 2006 MDLP AGM, partners asked the MDLP committee to create a policy document on licensing, funding and collection development for the program. They also asked the committee to develop evaluation principles and processes for current and potential product evaluations.

The committee held a strategic planning meeting in April to discuss and create the required policy documents. The draft of licensing, funding and collection development policy was approved by member libraries at the September General Meeting.

In the fall of 2006, a subcommittee of members from each library sector was formed to create the product evaluation principles and evaluation forms. These were presented for approval at the 2007 AGM. The principles and evaluation forms apply to both products in the current collection as well as potential products to be licensed.

3. PST Exemption for Electronic Subscriptions

In the past, the Department of Finance has applied the Provincial Sales Tax to electronic information resource databases, considering them computer services. The Multitype Library Board identified this issue in its Discussion Paper - "Working Together: Saskatchewan Libraries and other Information Providers". The Board had the opportunity to meet with Learning Minister Deb Higgins in May, 2006 to outline library issues, including the PST issue. The Board members told the Minister that, if there were an exemption, libraries would re-direct savings to other databases to increase the public's access to information. The Minister heard the

concerns and encouraged the Provincial Library to pursue this matter with Saskatchewan Finance.

Provincial Library was recently advised by Saskatchewan Finance that fees paid by the MDLP for electronic subscriptions to newspapers, journals, magazines and reference books are not considered a taxable computer service. Approximately $30,000 per year will be saved as the result of this ruling.

Strategic Initiatives for 2007

The MDLP Committee is recommending the following initiatives for 2007/08:

1. Product Evaluation

Following approval of the product evaluation documents, the committee will use these as the guideline to create a wish list of potential products, a red flag list of current products and conduct formal evaluations of selected products. This round of evaluations will help the committee test the new evaluation principles and forms and make appropriate changes.

2. Training

In 2007, the MDLP plans to organize a training workshop in Saskatoon on May 2nd, 2007 as one of SLA pre-conference sessions. CEDROM, EBSCO and Gale will come to Saskatchewan to provide training on Bibliobranchee/Newscan, Auto Repair Reference Center, Novlelist/Novelist K-8 and Powersearch respectively.

Regarding future training strategies, the MDLP committee decided to conduct an inventory survey of what tutorials partner libraries have already created for MDLP products and what has already been developed by the vendors. The MDLP plans to collect and load/link these resources on the Saskatchewan Libraries web site. The next step will be determining ways to develop new training materials for licensed products.

3. Promotion

The MDLP participated in the province-wide promotion campaign that was launched in the fall of 2005. The result of the campaign is very positive and the promotion implementation working group recommended an ongoing promotion program be put in place to ensure that the library community is reminded of e-library services including the province-wide licensed databases.

The MDLP committee will work with partner libraries to continue the promotion to increase awareness of the value of these databases which provide users with authoritative information.

Financial Contributors

Post-Secondary Education Libraries
Bethany College Library
Briercrest Family of Schools, Archibald Library
Central Pentecostal College, A. C. Schindel Library
Gabriel Dumont Institute Library
Royal Canadian Mounted Police Depot Library
Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, SIAST Libraries
St. Peter's Abbey and College Library
University of Regina, Dr. John Archer Library
University of Saskatchewan Library

Public Libraries
Chinook Regional Library
Lakeland Library Region
Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
Palliser Regional Library
Parkland Regional Library
Regina Public Library
Saskatoon Public Library
Southeast Regional Library
Wapiti Regional Library
Wheatland Regional Library

Special Libraries
Canadian Wildlife Service
Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan, Resource Centre
Health Quality Council, Library
Law Society of Saskatchewan, Library
POS Pilot Plant Corporation, Information Services
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Library
Regina Qu'Appelle Health District, Health Sciences Library
Resource Centre for Sport, Culture and Recreation
Saskatchewan First Nations and Metis Relations Library
Saskatchewan Community Resources
Saskatchewan Forest Centre, Library
Saskatchewan Health, Policy and Planning
Saskatchewan Health Information Resource Partnership
Saskatchewan Highways and Transportation, Resource Centre
Saskatchewan Labour Library
Saskatchewan Learning Resource Centre (included in Saskatchewan Learning's contribution)
Saskatchewan Legislative Library
Saskatchewan Provincial Auditor's Office Library
Saskatchewan Research Council Information Services.
Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation, Stewart Resource Centre

School Libraries
All school divisions through Saskatchewan Learning, on behalf of all K-12 school libraries in Saskatchewan

Provincial Library

Current Products Licensed – Listed by Vendor

CEDROM-SNi
BiblioBranchée/Newscan.com

EBSCO
Auto Repair Reference Library
Novelist
Novelist K-8

Encyclopedia Britannica Inc.
Encyclopedia Britannica Online
Micromedia ProQuest
Canadian Newsstand Major Dailies
Canadian Newsstand Prairies (includes Saskatchewan weeklies)
Canadian Research Index
CBCA (includes CBCA Business, Current Events, Education and Reference)

Grey House Canada
Canada Info Desk, includes:
- Associations Canada
- Canadian Almanac & Directory
- Canadian Environmental Directory
- Directory of Libraries in Canada
- Financial Services Canada
- Governments Canada

Services documentaires multimedia
Repére

Wiley InterScience
The Cochrane Library

Thomson Gale
Business and Company Resource Center
Business Index ASAP
CPI.Q (Canadian Periodicals)
Discovering Collection
Expanded Academic ASAP
General Business File ASAP
General Reference Center
General Reference Center Gold
Health and Wellness Resource Center

Health Reference Center Academic
InfoTrac OneFile
Junior Edition
Kids InfoBits
LegalTrac
Literature Resource Center
Student Edition

Gale Virtual Reference Library (EBooks)

Thomson Carswell
Index to Canadian Legal Literature

The Multitype Database Licensing Program Committee

The Multitype Library Board established a committee to administer the Multitype Database Licensing Program (MDLP) consisting of at least two representatives from each library sector. Committee members are responsible for consulting with their sector regarding development of the program and bringing their sector's concerns to the committee table. Committee members evaluate information databases, coordinate financial contributions from their sector and make recommendations to partner libraries about what products to fund. In addition they make decisions about how to implement the strategic directions set by the annual meeting and coordinate input from partner libraries.

Committee recommendations are provided to the Multitype Library Board and to its annual meeting, which establishes the broad strategic directions; approves a purchasing/renewal strategy for the upcoming year; and recommends financial commitments from partner libraries.

Provincial Library negotiates license agreements with vendors to acquire province-wide licenses on behalf of the program; coordinates partner funding; establishes database access through IP address and remote patron authentication methods; resolves access problems; and provides secretariat support to the MDLP committee.

2006/07 Committee Members

Post-secondary Education Libraries
Regan Balfour, SIAST Woodland Campus
Diana Kichuk, University of Saskatchewan Library
Barbara Nelke, University of Regina Library
Amy Rankin, RCMP Depot Library

Public Libraries
Gwen Thomson, Saskatoon Public Library
Alex Juorio, John M. Cuelenaere Public Library
Crystal Hampson and Tony Neal, Regina Public Library
James Richards, Southeast Regional Library

School Libraries
Joanne Beltramini, Regina Catholic Schools
Delee Cameron and Judy Nicholson, Saskatchewan Learning

Special Libraries
Jeff Mason, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, Health Resource Center
Pat Kolesar and Jane Blackett Saskatchewan Legislative Library

Charlene Kramer, Saskatchewan Learning Resource Centre
Bev Patenaude, POS Pilot Plant Corporation

Provincial Library
Jack Ma and Elgin Bunston, Provincial Library

Usage Statistics

Access means the number of times a user entered, or logged on to one of the databases/interfaces to begin searching.

Browse means selecting and following specific links in a directory or pages to retrieve information.

Search means a specific query submitted through a search form to one database. If several databases are selected within a single search interface, each database counts one search.

Gale	**2005**				**2006**			
	Access	%	Search	%	Access	%	Search	%
Post-secondary	187,368	60.5%	463,914	54.3%	179,464	51.7%	418,521	42.0%
Public	39,156	12.7%	132,866	15.5%	33,999	9.8%	125,749	12.6%
School	74,150	24%	230,185	26.9%	125,210	36.1%	428,231	42.9%
Special	8,543	2.8%	27,888	3.3%	8,469	2.4%	25,184	2.5%
TOTAL	309,217	100%	854,853	100%	347,142	100%	997,685	100%

Micromedia ProQuest	**2005**				**2006**			
	Access		Search		Access	%	Search	%
Post-secondary	131,958	76.4%	792,923	70.7%	146,820	74.0%	873,779	70.4%
Public	17,767	10.3%	109,841	9.8%	17,543	8.8%	106,108	8.6%
School	14,173	8.2%	153,011	13.6%	12,833	6.5%	140,373	11.3%
Special	8,822	5.1%	66,004	5.9%	21,213	10.7%	120,316	9.7%
TOTAL	172,720	100%	1,121,779	100%	198,409	100%	1,240,576	100%

EBSCO	**2006**			
	Access		Search	
Post-secondary	596	8.3%	2,346	6.3%
Public	5,596	78.2%	30,338	81.7%
School	842	11.8%	4,121	11.1%
Special	121	1.7%	322	0.9%
TOTAL	7,155	100%	37,127	100%

Britannica	2005				2006			
	Search	%	Browse	%	Search	%	Browse	%
Post-secondary	11,003	46%	19,278	33.8%	5,073	34.2%	6,521	17.8%
Public	2,012	8.8%	6,052	11.4%	1,295	8.8%	2,533	6.9%
School	9,060	37.9%	27,833	48.8%	7,353	49.6%	24,887	67.9%
Special	1,740	7.3%	3,443	6.0%	1,092	7.4%	2,732	7.4%
TOTAL	23,905	100%	57,056	100%	14,813	100%	36,673	100%

Total Number of Accesses and Searches

	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Access		Search	
Gale	309,217	347,324	854,853	1,240,576
Micromedia ProQuest	172,720	198,409	1,121,779	997,685
EBSCO		7,155		37,127
Britannica Online		13,810	23,905	14,813
Index to Canadian Legal Literature (No. of Transaction)			973	1,732
CEDROM	819	4,135		
The Cochrane Library	5,556	6,543	6,347	3,548
Total	**488,002**	**577,376**	**2,007,670**	**2,295,481**

Total Usage of Serials Solutions

	2005		2006	
	In Library Use	**Remote Access**	**In Library Use**	**Remote Access**
Search	3,654	1,377	2,981	2,130
Browse	2,230	681	1,282	1,047
Click Through	3,879	441	1,943	572

Notes:
SDM could not provide any usage information for Repére.

Index to Canadian Legal Literature only provides transaction (document viewed) information. CEDROM only provides login information but not the number of searches. Both CEDROM and Wiley cannot provide usage breakdown at library level.

Provincial Library's usage includes some usage from other member libraries whose patrons use Serials Solutions to access databases. The use of Serials Solutions E-Journal Portal and Federated Searching at some libraries may affect the total number of searches.